

PROJECT SUMMARY

I. INTRODUCTION

The Oak Forest Hospital has submitted a renewal application for a federally enforceable state operating permit covering four boilers, eight generators, and nine storage tanks. This permit prevents the site from being classified as a major source of emissions under the Clean Air Act. Therefore, the facility does not have to obtain a federal permit under the Clean Air Act Permit Program. The permit contains limitations and accompanying recordkeeping and reporting requirements to assure that the site is operated as a non-major source.

II. SOURCE DESCRIPTION

This is a medical facility which uses boilers for steam and generators for standby electricity.

III. EMISSIONS

Air pollutants are generated when the boilers and/or generators are in operation. These emissions occur from the combustion of natural gas and diesel fuel.

The primary air pollutants from the boilers and generators are nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), volatile organic material (VOM), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and particulate matter (PM).

NO_x is formed thermally by the combination of oxygen and nitrogen in the air at the temperature at which the fuel is burned. CO, VOM, and PM are formed from incomplete combustion of the fuel. Emissions of SO₂ are found in varying amounts from the combustion of diesel fuel, depending on the sulfur content of the oil.

The proposed permit includes limitations that restrict the potential annual emissions of NO_x, CO, VOM and SO₂ to levels below major source thresholds.

IV. APPLICABLE EMISSION STANDARDS

All emission sources in Illinois must comply with the Illinois Pollution Control Board's emission standards. The Board's emission standards represent the basic requirements for sources in Illinois. The Board has standards for sources of particulate matter, volatile organic material, and sulfur dioxide for reciprocating engines. This site readily complies with those Board standards.

V. PROPOSED PERMIT

The conditions of the proposed permit contain limitations and requirements to assure that this site will be operated as a non-major source. The permit establishes limitations on the amount of fuel which may be burned.

Page 2

The permit conditions also establish appropriate compliance procedures, including record keeping requirements and reporting requirements. The facility must carry out these procedures on a continual basis to demonstrate that the generators are operating within the limitations established by the permit.

VI. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

It is the Illinois EPA's preliminary determination that these generators meet all applicable state and federal air pollution control requirements, subject to the conditions of the draft permit. The Illinois EPA is therefore proposing to issue a permit with federally enforceable limits for the above referenced equipment to Oak Forest Hospital.

Comments are requested on this proposed action by the Illinois EPA and the proposed conditions on the draft permit. Comments, questions, and information requests should be directed to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 1021 North Grand Avenue, East, P.O. Box 19506, Springfield, Illinois, 62794-9506: Phone 217/782-2113. If there is significant public interest in this matter, the Illinois EPA may hold a public hearing in accordance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 166.

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